Ponnapakkam Adikesavan Loka Bharathi et al.

Serial No.: 10/645,131 Filed: August 21, 2003

Page 6

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 13-19 are pending in the subject application. Preliminary Amendment, applicants have amended identify International specification and claim 1 to the Depository and the corresponding Accession number in connection with the claimed novel deep-sea bacterium.

Applicants maintain that this Preliminary Amendment does not Accordingly, applicants respectfully introduce new matter. request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the telephone number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if fee any is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, alexandria, VA 22313-1450

P. White No. 28,678

John P. White

Registration No. 28,678 Attorney for Applicants

Cooper & Dunham LLP

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036

(212) 278-0400